

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY P -DAO'DONOHUE:CHG

APPROVED BY P - MR HABIB

S/PRS - MR BROWN

S/S :RGAMBLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 227397 TOSEC 270114

EXDIS - TO EAGLEBURGER FROM HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJ: DEFERMENT OF VIETNAM'S APPLICATION FOR UN
MEMBESHIP

PER OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, FOLLOWING IS PRESS
GUIDANCE WHICH WE ARE USING.QUOTE:

QUESTION: THERE ARE PRESS REPORTS THAT THE U.S. ASKED
THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT LAST WEEK TO SEEK A POSTPONEMENT
UNTIL AFTER THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF THE DEBATE
ON MEMBERSHIP FOR VIETNAM IN THE UNITED NATIONS, "WITH
THE HOPE THAT THE USG WILL NO LONGER BE UNDER PRESSURE
TO MAINTAIN A HARDLINE AGAINST HANOI." HAVE YOU ANY
COMMENT?

ANSWER: WE HAD NO PART WHATSOEVER IN THE SECURITY
COUNCIL ACTION, AND THERE WERE NO PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS IN-
VOLVING THE U.S. ANY IMPLICATION THAT THE U.S. HAS
CHANGED ITS POSITION ON VIETNAM'S APPLICATION TO JOIN
THE UNITED NATIONS IS SIMPLY NOT ACCURATE. I DON'T THINK
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IT IS NECESSARY TO REITERATE THIS POLICY, WHICH REMAINS

UNCHANGED.

END QUOTE. ROBINSON

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